

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A system for automatically installing, verifying and configuring functionalities, stored in installation, verification and/or configuration files, for system opponents arranged in a distributed network, where

- a system planning tool (4) for creating, checking and configuring the installation, verification and/or configuration files for the respective system components is provided,
- the system planning tool (4) transmits the installation, verification and/or configuration files for installation in the system components,
- the respective system components automatically checks and configures the required installation, verification and/or configuration files in a prescribed order and manner, and
- following the configuration of the system components an overall systems is formed.

2. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein following the configuration of the system components among one another an operational overall system is formed.

3. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the functionalities stored in installation, verification and/or configuration files are software packages.

4. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the overall system is a distributed network, particularly a distributed automation system.

5. (Currently Amended) The system as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the software packages store system component data and setup data for the system components.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically installing and configuring functionalities, stored in installation, verification and/or configuration files, for system components arranged in a distributed network, where

- a system planning tool (4) is used to create, check and configure the installation, verification and/or configuration files for the respective system components,
- the installation, verification and/or configuration files required in the respective system components are automatically installed, checked and configured in the respective system components in a prescribed order and manner, and
- the system components are configured to form an overall system.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein following the configuration of the system components an operational overall system is formed.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~claim 6 or 7, characterized in that~~ claim 6, wherein the functionalities stored in installation, verification and/or configuration files are in the form of software packages.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 6, to 8, characterized in that~~ claim 6, wherein the overall system is in the form of a distributed network, particularly in the form of a distributed automation system.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 6, to 9, characterized in that~~ claim 6, wherein the software packages are used to store system component data and setup data for the system components.

11. (New) The system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the functionalities stored in installation, verification and/or configuration files are software packages.

12. (New) The system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the overall system is distributed network, particularly a distributed automation system.

13. (New) The system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the software packages store system component data and setup data for the system components.

14. (New) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the functionalities stored in installation, verification and/or configuration files are in the form of software packages.

15. (New) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the overall system is in the form of a distributed network, particularly in the form of a distributed automation system.

16. (New) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the software packages are used to store system component data and setup data for the system components.